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TCS-10636-61-KH
30 November 1961

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Headquarters, United States Air Force
Assistant Chief of Staff/Intelligence

SUBJECT: Comments on Proposed AFIC Reports

1. Reference is made to AFICIN letter to NPIC of 16 November 1961, Subject: Letter of Transmittal.

2. Reference letter requests by 30 November 1961 NPIC comments on "three new products which AFIC is contemplating producing in support of the Talent/Keyhole Exploitation System." The comments requested are attached hereto as Inclosures 1 through 3.

3. Additional comments may be provided at a later date, as study is continuing of the most appropriate procedures for obtaining and presenting the material covered by the proposed products.

DAVID S. PARKER
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Deputy Director

Inclosures:

1. Comments on Sample Catalog of Target Coverage
2. Comments on Sample Area Coverage Summary
3. Comments on Sample Coverage Summary Plot

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Inclosure 1 to
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b. Under "T" (responsibility for preparation of report) provision should be made for other contributors, such as Army and Navy. In the tactical field particularly, these agencies and others may perform the most detailed reporting.

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Inclosure 2 to
TSS-10636-61-KH

Comments on Sample Area Coverage Summary

1. Reference: - Memo from Director, HPIC, to Commander, AFICIN,
Subject: Proposal for Evaluating T-KH Photography, dated 31 Oct 1961.

2. Apparently this report is essentially the same as that commented on in paragraph 3, inclosure 1, above reference. This would be a useful type of report, provided:

a. "Quality" and "cloud readable" terms are defined and prepared as proposed in reference 1.

b. Probable ICEN and MERN areas are defined by or are acceptable to GMAIC or other joint intelligence agency.

c. Experience with the computer demonstrates that frames are located with sufficient accuracy to provide a reliable statistical base.

3. The presentation under the concept described will require additional statistical data to make it valid for comparative purposes. For example, the proposed concept lumps all suspect MERN areas in one pot and does not show the characteristics of the coverage of individual targets or groups thereof. It appears that one could not distinguish from these data whether every single area was 50% covered with good photography or whether half of the areas were completely covered and the other areas not covered at all.

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Inclosure 3 to
TCS-10636-61-KH

Comments on Coverage Summary Plot

1. References: a. Memo from Commander, AFCIN, to Director, NPIC, Subject: Proposal for Evaluating T-KH Photography, dated 18 Oct 1961.

b. Memo from Director, NPIC, to Commander, AFCIN, Subject: Proposal for Evaluating T-KH Photography, dated 31 Oct 1961.

2. Apparently this report is essentially the same as that suggested by inclosure 5 to reference 1a. This would be a useful type of presentation, provided:

a. Terms relating to quality and cloud coverage are defined and prepared as proposed in reference 1b.

b. The data are basically amenable to graphical presentation, that is, the quality does not vary so much from point to point that graphical portrayal is overly confusing.

3. It is believed that a computer solution of the type visualized here and for the Area Coverage Summary is the only practical solution for the type of problem they are intended to solve. Hand mechanical and graphical methods will not be able to keep up because of the quantity of material. Therefore, it is hoped that these computer programs can be developed and can be based on quality terms which are definitive and widely acceptable.

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